

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 SS-15 PM-09 DPW-01

IO-12 INRE-00 USIE-00 NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 PRS-01 PA-03

AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 /119 W  
----- 050549

O 121110 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3571

INFO WHITE HOUSE

CIA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

DEPCDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2840

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, PFOR, MARR, MASS, MCAP,

MOPS, MILI, PA, US, VN, XC

SUBJECT: THE LAOS CEASEFIRE -- SEVENTH WEEK

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: VIENTIANE 2550

BEGIN SUMMARY. BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN LAOS REMAINED  
AT LOW LEVELS DURING WEEK APRIL 6-12.

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MILITARY: THERE WAS A SMATTERING OF MINOR INCIDENTS THROUGHOUT COUN-  
TRY, BUT ONLY THA VIANG AND THAKHEK WERE SUBJECTED TO HEAVY FIGHT-  
ING. CEASEFIRE INCIDENTS AVERAGED APPROX TWO MAJOR AND FIVE MINOR  
CLASHES AND SHELLINGS PER DAY. POLITICAL: WEEK WAS QUIET. LPF AND  
RLG NEGOTIATORS HAVE NARROWED DIFFERENCES ON DISTRIBUTION OF  
PORTFOLIOS IN NEW COALITION GOVT BUT REMAIN FAR APART ON MILITARY  
QUESTIONS. NEGOTIATIONS POSPONED UNTIL AFTER CELEBRATION OF LAO  
NEW YEAR ( APRIL 13-15) IS OVER. END SUMMARY.

1. MILITARY: AIR AND GROUND ACTION DURING PERIOD APRIL 6-12 CON-  
TINUED LIGHT THROUGHOUT LAOS WITH ONLY HOT SPOTS BEING CONTESTED  
AREAS SOUTHEAST OF PDJ NEAR THA VIANG AND AROUND THAKHEK. MISSION' S  
COUNT OF GROUND INCIDENTS INITIATED BY BOTH SIDES DURING PERIOD  
3-9 APRIL SHOWS 15 MAJOR AND 32 MINOR INCIDENTS. RLAF SORTIES

AVERAGED SIX PER DAY AND FRIENDLY ARTILLERY EXPENDITURES WERE LOW,  
WITH EXCEPTION OF 608 ROUNDS 105 MM HOWITZER FIRED AT ENEMY IN  
HTHAKHEK AREA 9 APRIL IN RETALIATION FOR ENEMY ATTACK. CASUALTIES  
ON BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN LOW THIS WEEK. AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD  
ENEMY ATTACKS IN VICINITY THA VIANG APPEARED TO BE INCREASING  
SIGNIFICANTLY.

2. POLITICAL: LITTLE ACTUAL PROGRESS ACHIEVED. ALTHOUGH " WEEKLY"  
TUESDAY TALKS WERE CANCELLED FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE WEEK, LPF  
NEGOTIATOR PHOUN SIPRASEUTH AND RLG NEGOTIATOR NGON SANANIKONE PRI-  
VATELY REACHED PARTIAL AGREEMENT ON DIVISION OF PORTFOLIOS IN NEW  
COALITION GOVT THIS WEEK, ALTHOUGH ALLOCATION OF INTERIOR AND FIN-  
ANCE PORTFOLIOS IS STILL AT ISSUE. LPF ALSO INSISTING ON HOLDING  
DEPUTY PRIMIN SLOT. LPF REPRESENTATIVEHYOTH PHETRASY TOLD SENATOR  
BROOKE APRIL 6 THAT FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT MUST AWAIT  
RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING POLITICAL AND MILITARY PROBLEMS.  
REAL PROBLEM IS OVER MILITARY PROTOCOL, WHEREIN LPF IS DEMANDING  
HERMETICALLY SEALED ZONE WHICH IS UNACCEPTABLE TO SOUVANNA  
BECAUSE  
OF HIS DESIRE TO PREVENT PARTITION OF LAOS.

3. CELEBRATION OF LAO NEW YEAR APRIL 13-15 WILL BE MARKED BY GROUND  
CONVOY APRIL 14 TO LUANG PRABANG. PERSONNEL FROM FOUR EMBASSIES-  
AUSTRALIAN, UNITED STATES, FRENCH AND CAMBODIAN - WILL MAKE  
ROAD TRIP, INCLUDING AMBASSADORS FROM FIRST THREE. FOR FIRST  
TIME, LPF WILL PARTICIPATE IN NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES IN LUANG PRABANG  
AT ITS REQUEST. LAO INTERNAL TALKS ARE ON SHELF UNTIL CELEBRATION  
OF PI MAI HAS DISSIPATED COMPLETELY.  
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GODLEY

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <07-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**TAGS:** MARR, MASS, MCAP, MILI, MOPS, PGOV, PINS, PINT, PA, US, XC  
**To:** BANGKOK  
CIA  
EA  
LONDON  
MOSCOW  
NEW DELHI  
OTTAWA

PHNOM PENH  
SECSTATE WASHDC

**Type:** TE

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